

NEW RECORDS FOR BUTTERFLIES (LEPIDOPTERA) IN EASTERN NEW SOUTH WALES

Russell Mayo¹, Andrew Atkins² and Bruce White³

¹ 12 Dena Ave, Narara, N.S.W., 2250

² 45 Caldwell Ave, Dudley, N.S.W., 2290

³ 44 Birriga St, Norahead, N.S.W., 2263

Abstract

New distribution records and/or host plants are given for *Trapezites luteus leucus* Waterhouse, *T. iacchoides* Waterhouse, *Heteronympha paradelpha paradelpha* Lower, *Hypochrysops byzos byzos* (Boisduval), *Ogyris ianthis* Waterhouse, *Deudorix epijarbas diovis* Hewitson, *Candalides heathi heathi* (Cox), *Nacaduba berenice berenice* (Herrich-Schaffer), *Erysichton palmyra tasmanicus* (Miskin) and *Theclines thescia* (Lucas) from central New South Wales.

New Records

Nomenclature follows Common and Waterhouse (1981). Material is in the authors' collections.

Trapezites iacchoides Waterhouse

Recorded in September 1986, 1987 and 1988 hill-topping at Bumble Hill, Yarramalong (BW, RM), a new northern coastal record.

Trapezites luteus leucus Waterhouse

Several larvae, mostly collected on *Lomandra multiflora* (R.Br.) J.Britt. in winter 1987 and 1988 from Branxton, Belford-Pokolbin areas (AA) and Broke (RM) emerged as adults the following spring and early summer. This is an additional food plant for this species.

Heteronympha paradelpha paradelpha Lower

Local but common in fern gullies on Barrington Tops above 1100 m in December and January (AA, RM, BW). As specimens of this population do not appear to be as dark as the subspecies *deervalensis* Burns from northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, they have been referred to subspecies *paradelpha* and represent a new northern limit for the subspecies.

Hypochrysops byzos byzos (Boisduval)

Adults were reared from larvae collected from Pearl Beach in October 1987 and February 1989 (RM) and at Patonga in February 1988 (RM). These are the first records of this species from the central coast.

Ogyris ianthis Waterhouse

Adults collected hill-topping at Phegans Bay in November 1987 and 1988 (RM), Narara and Ettalong in February 1989 (RM). These are the first records of this rare species from the central coast.

Deudorix epijarbas diovis Hewitson

An adult male was collected at Toukley in February 1987 (BW) and is one of the few specimens known from central New South Wales.

Candalides heathi heathi (Cox)

This species was common in September 1988, flying around granite out-crops at Boat Harbour (AA). Females were observed ovipositing on a dwarf form of *Westringia fruticosa* (Willd.) Druce and larvae were reared to the second instar.

Nacaduba berenice berenice (Herrich-Schaffer)

Adults were collected commonly in March 1987 at Canton Beach, Toukley (BW), representing a new southern record for this species.

Erysichton palmyra tasmanicus (Miskin)

An adult female was collected in January 1988 at Wyong feeding at *Bursaria* Cav. flowers (RM). Males were observed nearby, flying above *Casuarina* L. trees growing along the Wyong River. This is a new southern limit for this species.

Theclinesches scintillata (T.P. Lucas)

Adult males and females were observed flying in pockets of bushland at Charlestown near Newcastle (AA). The females appeared to be ovipositing on *Acacia longifolia* (Andr.) Willd. in July 1987 although no eggs could be found.

This species was also collected at Toukley in April 1987 (BW) and Narara in February 1989 (RM), indicating the existence of resident populations on the New South Wales central coast.

Reference

COMMON, I.F.B. and WATERHOUSE, D.F., 1981. *Butterflies of Australia*. Pp. xiv + 682. Angus and Robertson, Sydney.